

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY CHILDREN AND FAMILIES COMMISSION

————— MEETING SUMMARY —————

Canlis Building, Room 101
24 South Hunter Street
Stockton CA

Wednesday, March 29, 2000 – 7:00 a.m.

Approved 04/19/00 as Amended

1. Meeting was called to order by Chair Gutierrez at 7:10 a.m. Roll call was taken and all commissioners were in attendance except for Commissioners Adubofour (7:15 a.m.) and Vera.
2. Meeting summaries from March 15 and March 19, 2000 were presented for approval.

*Motion: Approve meeting summaries from March 15 and March 19, 2000.
(Mitchell/Fujii – Motion passed 7–0)*

3. Public Hearing – State Audit Report for 1998/99

Staff noted that the Commission is required by both County ordinance and the Children and Families Act to conduct at least one public hearing on the State Audit Report. The hearing was opened to public comment but there was none forthcoming.

4. Presentation of Revised Recommendation from the System Advisory Group

Richard Gacer, Chair of the Advisory Group described how the Group, as charged by the Commission, was to develop recommendations based upon the Commission's goal of achieving a comprehensive integrated service system to benefit children in the community. He stated that the Group decided that in order to accomplish this goal, a strong foundation was required. The following core elements were identified: Developmentally appropriate practices; integration of prevention and direct care; cross service planning; accessible communication; be culturally appropriate; and have a common data system.

Mr. Gacer highlighted the Group's recommendations for how the system should work: support from public officials; uniform service delivery system; case management process; a service user appeal procedure; a centralized data-tracking system; appropriate service hours and locations; collaboration among service providers; staffing levels development; ongoing strategic planning; system level

evaluations; parent and consumer education; multi-year funding; access to system level data; reporting requirements; and public education.

Discussion followed regarding the degree of input by consumer groups and parents regarding current barriers to integrated service systems; regarding the potential of the Prop 10 Commission to improve coordinated activities; and to extent to which outcomes that make a difference in the lives of individuals can be identified.

Dr. Adubofour suggested the Commission consider hosting a daylong conference bringing together service providers to encourage collaboration.

The presentation concluded with Mr. Gacer reminding the Commission of the need for oversight.

Motion: Accept Systems Advisory Group's Report. (Mitchell/Fujii – Motion passed 8–0)

5. Recommendations from Communications/Marketing Subcommittee:

a. Consultant to develop Marketing Plan

Staff distributed to the Commission the results of the Communications/Marketing Subcommittee's ratings of four proposals for a marketing plan. Staff indicated that a contract for plan development would be negotiated, and upon Commission approval of the plan, staff would negotiate a separate contract for plan implementation.

Motion: Approve the recommended marketing plan consultant (Fujii/Adubofour – Motion passed 8–0)

b. Mailers to Households

Staff presented an additional recommendation of the Communications/Marketing Subcommittee to distribute a mailer to all of the residential households in the County. This mailer would announce the dates and locations of the upcoming community meetings and encourage public participation. Staff asked for Commission approval to ask the Purchasing Agent to enter into contracts for printing, mailing, and postage with the recommended vendors.

Motion: Direct staff to implement the recommendation from the Communications/Marketing Subcommittee (Fujii/Smith – Motion passed 8–0)

6. Public Comments:

- a. Phyllis Grupe, Chairperson of the Community Partnership for Families of San Joaquin gave an overview of the history and origins of the Partnership from the Vision 2000 Project and San Joaquin A+ to the current organization of more than 75 members representing numerous agencies, community-based organizations, and neighborhood groups, and individuals. She pointed out that the goals and objectives of the Partnership are similar to those of the Prop 10 Commission, emphasizing early childhood development and readiness to learn. The Partnership has already established two neighborhood centers and more are being developed. Ms. Grupe stated that the Community Partnership would be happy to help the Commission meet its goals in whatever ways it can.
- b. Caroline Stroud, PHN, Child and Adolescent Health spoke to the Commission to reiterate the importance of prenatal care. She pointed out the problems with new immigrant families, many of whom are illegal, living in poor environments and poor home conditions, and the need for family health care. She emphasized the need for in-the-home family support workers.
- c. Stewart Wakeling, Executive Director of the Community Partnership, elaborated on the status of neighborhood community centers. He stated that in addition to the two current operating centers, there are planning groups in four other areas, i.e., Lodi and three more in Stockton, and efforts are continuing to engage the residents in those areas.
- d. Helen Senft, Public Health Department, Child and Adolescent Health elaborated further regarding the needs of families for services and emphasized the problems relating to transportation.
- e. Ron Kerstiens, Deputy Director, Mental Health Division, pointed out the importance of an evaluation system to help maintain focus and direction towards goals. In addition, he recommended the hiring of parent advocates to help families negotiate through the system.
- f. Tom Amato, Lead Organizer of PACT (Parents and Communities Together), indicated his organization has been working with the Partnership and is very supportive, particularly trying to expand outreach efforts. He stated PACT is striving to influence a priority for health care.

7. Comments from Commission Members:

Commissioner Flenoy–Kelley thanked public commentators and all in the community working so diligently. She also cautioned that the money available to the Prop 10 Commission was not great relative to the needs, and that the dollars not be the catalyst, but only the support for programs. She expressed the hope for an eventual seamless accessible system the Commission is hoping to create.

8. Staff pointed out that among the handouts at the last planning workshop was an item regarding pending legislation relating to the autonomy of county commissions. Staff will be working on an analysis and will develop a recommendation through the County Administrator.
9. The Chair indicated that plans to host future meeting of either the State or Regional Commissions are being considered.
10. *Meeting was adjourned to April 3, 2000 at 7:00 a.m. at the Public Health Auditorium at 5:30 p.m. (Mitchell/Snider – Motion passed 5–0)*